

ITALIA INSISTE PER IL POSSESSO DI FIUME

La Delegazione Italiana Pronta a Titrarsi Dalla Conferenza di Pace

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Parigi, 21 marzo.—La Delegazione Italiana per la Conferenza della Pace ha unanimemente deciso di ritirarsi dalla conferenza, senza che Fiume sia assegnata all'Italia contemporaneamente con la conclusione della pace.

Roma, 19 marzo.—Papa Benedetto ha oggi ricevuto una delegazione di membri del clero appartenente alla Chiesa Orientale. Rispondendo ad un indirizzo di Monsignor Papadopoulos, capo della Congregazione Orientale, che brevemente ha riassunto il lavoro che è stato possibile di fare per sollevare la sofferenza causata dalla guerra, il Papa così si è espresso: "Il Pontefice Romano è sempre stato un amico della Chiesa Orientale ed ha sempre ripetuto grandi speranze sopra di essa. Egli non soltanto è stato un amico ma ha avuto profonda affezione per l'Oriente, affezione che è stata pur che intensa per la incertezza del fato dei lontani figli della Chiesa. Io spero che queste parole possano raggiungere le lontane spiagge d'Oriente, ma la mia voce non può raggiungerele e così, io trasmetto a mezzo di voi qui presenti, ed ho fiducia che tutti i desiderii del dominio cristiano orientale possano essere uniti da stretta amicizia e filiale amore per l'apostolica Santa Sede."

Allies Will Meet Germans in Month

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Should this view prevail it would yield \$3,000,000,000 for the immediate liquidation of war losses. This would leave \$4,000,000,000 to be paid if the American estimate of the total to be claimed is adopted.

The American view as to the means to provide for this balance is that the chief reliance will have to be placed in Germany's balance of trade. This in turn has opened a large and subsidiary question as to how far German industry should be allowed to compete with the rest of the world, particularly with nearby countries like France.

British Present Traffic Views A draft of clauses regarding the freedom of transit to be inserted in the treaty was considered today by the commission on the international regime of ports, waterways and railways. The clauses were presented by the British delegation. The meeting, which was held at the ministry of public works, adjourned at 1 o'clock.

The commission on international labor legislation today considered the final draft of the labor clauses to be included in the treaty. The commission held two meetings under the chairmanship of Samuel Gompers.

Premier Lloyd George told the British newspaper men that he had decided to remain in Paris until the peace treaty was signed. He expressed the opinion that one of the reasons for the present labor difficulties in England was the fact that the treaty had not been completed, which led to a feeling of disquiet in that

ITALY ASKS AWARD OF FIUME



Italian delegates to the Peace Council unanimously decided to withdraw from the council unless Fiume is assigned to Italy. The former Adriatic seaport of Hungary is claimed by Italians and Jugo-Slavs

country. He said he was "unable to imagine that labor leaders would resort to force at the present moment."

CONFLICT WAS BITTER OVER ADRIATIC CLAIMS

The decision of the Italian delegation, as reported from Paris, apparently brings to a head the bitter controversy between Italy and the new Jugo-Slav state over the disposition of land along the Adriatic, formerly belonging to the Austro-Hungarian empire, which both nationalities claim.

The sharply conflicting claims to territory between Italy and Jugo-Slavia, in fact, have constituted one of the most serious problems before the Peace Conference, with Fiume as a focal point. Signor Giuseppe Casati, while a member of the Italian labor delegation to the Peace Conference, said: "Without doubt Italians of all classes and politicians of all parties are convinced Fiume should be assigned to Italy. Fiume's undeniably Italian character is proved by the population, its secular culture, its customs and traditions, which are all Italian. Besides, Fiume is an integral part of Istria, and Istria belongs to Italy for reasons long since expounded by Mazzini."

Italy's Claims Italy's claims originally included virtually the entire Dalmatian coast, with Trieste and Fiume, the last named city being the second principal seaport on the eastern side of the Adriatic. Recent reports have been that the Italian representatives were manifesting a disposition to make important concessions regarding the city and harbor of Fiume.

AND THEY THOUGHT WE WOULDN'T FIGHT

By Floyd Gibbons

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Tensions Has Been Great

There have been, in fact, several "incidents" at Fiume and other points in the territory claimed by both Italy and Jugo-Slavia since the signing of the armistice, and the feud at one time grew so bitter that Italy established a blockade and cut off food relief imports for the interior. This matter was adjudged by the supreme council in Paris, however, and troops of late have indicated that an amicable settlement of the conflicting Italian-Jugo-Slav claims was possible, if not probable.

Give Us Danzig, Polish Demand

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Germany would do by breaking the standard of living of the western peoples. For the present task we need a free nation to cope with Germany in influencing the development of Russia. "Danzig we must have, because without it our commerce would always be at the mercy of Germany. With Danzig we must have the river Vistula, which is navigable almost to Cracow. It is an artery which, with its tributaries, gives life to the body of the Polish nation."

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Ruthenians and Poles Kilt

"In Eastern Galicia a majority of the inhabitants are Ruthenians. The distinction between them and the Poles is not radical, but only religious and linguistic. The Ruthenians belong to the Greek Church which recognizes the authority of Rome. When a Polish woman marries a Ruthenian, the girls are classed as Poles and the boys become Ruthenians, and vice versa. Thus in the same family you will find Ruthenians

and Poles, speaking the languages of both countries, and with the only distinction being the religious rite in the same church. The Polish peasants in Eastern Galicia are enthusiastic over their newly found national unity, freedom and independence.

"This patriotism is rooted deeply in the Polish people and will cement our nation in a strong barrier against Bolshevism on the one hand and against Pan-Germanism on the other, if we receive from the Peace Conference those districts which will give us real independence nationally, industrially and commercially. I hope that the American people will help us to attain this end."

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